

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS

BOTANICAL LEAFLETS

ISSUE 9 SPRING 2012



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's summer and with the sporadic rains we had this winter it will be interesting to see what the bloom is like upslope. This spring went fast in the valley with everything drying out quickly. Luckily the wildflowers held on long enough to get out and see them! I got to visit Table Mountain seven times this spring, which was wonderful. Retirement for me has had some nice perks! I hope you all have enjoyed the spring wildflowers this year.

Our next Northern California Botanists Symposium will be January 14-16, 2013 at California State University, Chico. See below for more information and our "Call for Papers."

We again have solicited students to apply for our student scholarships and have completed our review and selection of the applications. We received numerous fantastic applications which made it hard to make

the selections! This year we will be funding 7 proposals, which include 6 individual student projects and one team project with two students. Hopefully a new batch of botanists doing vital work in Northern California will develop from those scholarships.

Have a wonderful summer pursuing your many vast botanical adventures.

Linnea Hanson

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FIFTH NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS SYMPOSIUM!

The Northern California Botanists Symposium will be held January 14-16, 2013 at California State University, Chico. The theme of the 2-day symposium is *"From the Redwoods to the Sagebrush: Botany Ranging Far and Wide."* The third day will include workshops on Whitebark Pine, Electronic Botanical Field Methods, Fungi, and Resources for Professional Botanists.

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MYSTERY PLANT

Can you identify this plant that is found in open areas, especially on decomposed granite and slate, in mixed coniferous, upper montane and subalpine forests, in the northern Sierra Nevada, 5,900-6,900'?

(Answer on Page 3)

Photo: Karen Wiese



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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS IN ACTION

This issue of Leaflets features a continuing series that highlights well-known to possibly less-well-known botanists, with photographs from the present to several decades back. If you have unpublished pictures of Northern California Botanists to share, please send jpegs and relevant information to rschlising@csuchico.edu



Barbara Ertter (University of California, Berkeley) is Curator of Western North American Flora Collections Manager at the University and Jepson Herbaria. She has given numerous talks and produced many publications, especially on Juncaceae, Polygonaceae, and Rosaceae. Barbara is also greatly interested in botanical history and in California floristics. She is shown here reaching for a *Potentilla* and (inset) near Idaho, her state of retirement.



Jenny Marr (Staff Environmental Scientist with the California Department of Fish and Game) also gives time and provides her expertise for many botanical and environmental groups, including the Board of Directors for NCB. Here she is one of two instructors that taught a “Name that Wildflower” class for Redbud Chapter, CNPS and Friends of the Chico State Herbarium from 2006 to 2011.



Lowell Ahart left (well-known rancher and botanist of northern California) and second author of the “Flowering plants and Ferns of Butte County” (with Vern Oswald). Several California taxa are graced with his name (e.g., *Paronychia ahartii*). **Matt Guilliams** (Bruce Baldwin Lab, UC Berkeley) a versatile and dynamic graduate student studying vernal pools, Montiaceae and *Plagiobothrys*. He is a member of the Board of Directors for NCB.



Rob Schlising (retired, Chico State University) shown collecting seeds of *Marah horrida* in the Sierra Nevada several decades ago. He is on the Board of Directors for NCB and volunteers time with other environmental groups in the Chico area. He is finishing up projects on geophytes and vernal pool plants, and presently “plants for bees” in his small urban garden.

2012-2013 STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

An important mission of the Northern California Botanists is to provide monetary scholarships for students doing research on botanical subjects in northern California. This year we received 44 applications and awarded seven proposals which includes a two-person undergraduate research team. Individuals awards are \$1,000 scholarships. The undergraduate team proposal was fully funded for \$1680. The scholarship recipients are listed in the following table. Congratulations to these students and thank you to all that submitted applications!

2012-2013 NCB RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS			
Applicant(s)	Degree Program	College	Title of Research Project
Jennifer Balachowski	PhD	University of California, Davis	Restoring for the future: evolutionary ecology of <i>Elymus glaucus</i> , and composite provenancing as a tool for native grassland restoration
Juliana Moreno & Leena McCann	Under-graduate	Santa Clara University	Sympatric speciation in northern California columbines
Meghan Parish	MS	Sonoma State	Functional traits, disturbance, and invasion: response of exotic grasses to mowing and herbicide in an invaded California grassland
Lee Ripma	MS	San Diego State	A phylogenetic analysis of the plant genus <i>Cryptantha</i> Oreocarya group (Boraginaceae)
Sean Ryan	MS	San Diego State	Molecular phylogeny and character evolution of <i>Fritillaria</i> subgenus <i>Liliorhiza</i> (Liliaceae)
Brett Smith	MS	University of California, Santa Cruz	Gene flow and hybridization in a rare, serpentine endemic <i>Monardella</i>
Jens Stevens	PhD	University of California, Davis	Interacting effects of snowpack, fire and forest management on plant invasions in the Sierra Nevada

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FIFTH NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS SYMPOSIUM! (CONTINUED)

We are in the planning stages now and have a Call for Papers out for the Nonseed Plant, Biogeography in Northern California, Great Basin Botany, and New Botanical Discoveries sessions. If you would like to give a talk on one of these subjects, please send a couple of sentences describing your subject to Linnea Hanson by June 14, 2012 at linneachanson@gmail.com.

RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNT ON THE TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST

Join the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and the Tahoe National Forest on Sunday, June 24 from 10 am – 2 pm as we search for Hutchison's lewisia (*Lewisia kelloggii* ssp. *hutchisonii*). This elusive rare plant only has a narrow blooming period, and we are hoping to catch it while it's in flower. We will meet at the

Tahoe National Forest, American River Ranger District office at 22830 Foresthill Rd., Foresthill, CA at 9:45 am. From Foresthill, we will carpool and drive about one hour to the survey site, near Robinson Flat, around 7,000 ft. elevation. Plan for a fun day of hiking and botanizing - bring lunch, water, insect repellent, sun protection, hiking shoes,

and your botany supplies (camera, gps, flora, handlens). This hike should be moderately strenuous. Contact Victor at vlyon@fs.fed.us for more information or check out the following website: <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/calendar.php>

Answer to "Mystery Plant": Hutchison's lewisia (*Lewisia kelloggii* subsp. *hutchisonii*), Miner's Lettuce Family (Montiaceae)



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS

P. O. Box 8042
Chico, CA 95927-8042

*Please note our
mailing address
has changed!*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Individual \$25.00 Student/Limited Income \$15.00

Family or Small Business/Non-Profit (two memberships) \$40.00

In addition, I would like to donate \$_____ to Northern California Botanists to help fund NCB programs and student research scholarships.

Make checks payable to "Northern California Botanists" and mail to:

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